

From the ACCRA Cost of Living Index (COLI)
Fourth Quarter 2004
Comparison of Four of the Largest Texas Cities

Texas (Cities) Metro/Urban Area	Composite Index	Grocery Items	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Healthcare	Miscellaneous Goods & Services
Austin (Austin, TX)	95.0	87.3	87.6	91.4	98.8	100.4	103.5
Dallas (Dallas, TX)	91.5	91.8	79.2	97.2	104.8	99.8	96.2
Ft. Worth (Ft. Worth, TX)	91.7	96.8	78.1	99.0	100.2	109.5	95.5
Houston (Houston, TX)	88.0	83.7	72.0	99.2	103.1	102.4	94.8
San Antonio (San Antonio, TX)	92.0	84.1	92.5	75.1	87.2	97.9	99.6

ACCRA Cost of Living Index
Fourth Quarter 2004
National Average for 305 Urban Areas = 100
(Comparing Houston, Texas to the 1 – 10th Ranked Most Expensive Urban Areas)

RANKING	URBAN AREAS	COL INDEX
1	New York (Manhattan) NY	211.6
2	San Francisco CA	183.6
3	San Jose CA	168.9
4	Honolulu HI	161.6
5	Los Angeles – Long Beach CA	156.4
6	Oakland CA	155.0
7	Orange County CA	154.6
8	Stamford CT	148.7
9	San Diego CA	147.7
10	Washington-Arlington- Alexandria DC – VA	144.5
N/A	Houston TX	88.0

The ACCRA Cost of Living Index measures differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top quintile. It is based on more than 50,000 prices covering 60 different items for which prices are collected quarterly by chambers of commerce, economic development organizations or university applied economic centers in each participating urban area. Small difference should not be interpreted as showing a measurable difference.

The composite index is based on six components – housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care and miscellaneous goods and services.